

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 OMB-01

IO-10 /085 W

----- 050971

O R 291524Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3437

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

FOSIF ROTA

COMSIXTHFLT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SP, SS, MO, UN

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA: CURFEW IMPOSED IN SAHARA AS INTERNAL
SHARA SITUATION BECOMES MORE CONFUSED

REF: MADRID 7512 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: CURFEW WAS IMPOSED IN THE SAHARA OCT 28 WITH REPORTS
OF EXTENSIVE MILITARY DEPLOYMENT IN EL AIUUN. F POLISARIO
INDEPENDENCE FRONT MEMBERS REPORTEDLY HAVE LEFT EL AIUUN TO
CONCENTRATE IN UNKNOWN LOCATIONS IN DESERT. SPANISH MEDIA
REPORT THAT LIBYAN LEADER QADHAFI RECEIVED F POLISARIO
LEADER OCT 28. END SUMMARY

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1. MILITARY AUTHORITIES IMPOSED AT A.M. TO 6 P.M. CURFEW IN

THE SPANISH SAHARA OCT 28. PRESS ANNOUNCED OCT 25 MEETING OF SPANISH THEATRE COMMAND TO DISCUSS MEASURES TO COPE WITH GREEN MARCHERS.

2. CORRESPONDENTS IN EL AIUUN REPORT EXTENSIVE MILITARY ACTIVITY AND DEPLOYMENT THROUGHOUT CITY AND THAT F POLISARIO INDEPENDENCE FRONT FOLLOWERS HAVE TAKEN TO THE DESERT TO CONCENTRATE.

3. CORRESPONDENTS IN EL AIUUN ALSO REPORT THAT EXODUS OF CIVILIANS AND CLOSING OF SHOPS IS CONTINUING APACE. THERE IS REPORTEDLY CONSIDERABLE APPREHENSION AMONG THE SAHARAN POPULATION AND ONE CORRESPONDENT WROTE THAT HIS CAR WAS STONED BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS. SPANISH AUTHORITIES ARE OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT MAINTAINING SECURITY AND PREVENTING DISORDERS, PARTICULARLY HOSTILE ACTIONS TOWARDS SPANIARDS WHOM THE F POLISARIO AND OTHER SAHARANS HAVE CRITICIZED RECENTLY FOR GIVING THE APPEARANCE OF A PRECIPITOUS SEARCH FOR A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH MOROCCO.

4. ACCORDING TO ONE PRESS REPORT, LIBYAN LEADER QADHAFI MET WITH A REP OF THE F POLISARIO OCT 28. EARLIER SPECULATION HAD SUGGESTED LIBYA AS THE SOURCE OF MONEY AND PERHAPS ARMAMENTS WHICH WERE CHANNELED THROUGH ALGERIA TO THE F POLISARIO. OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY EFE REPORTS FROM BEIRUT THAT THE DEMOCRATIC FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (FDLP) ISSUED A STATEMENT SUPPORTING SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE SAHARANS CLAIMING THAT AMERICAN ACTIONS IN THE MAGHREB WERE DESIGNED TO FERMENT DISSENSION AMONG ARAB PEOPLES OF NORTH AFRICA TO DISTRACT THEM FROM THEIR PRINCIPAL STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL.

5. GENERAL DLI MI, MILITARY GOVERNOR OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF MOROCCO, TOLD EFE THAT GREEN MARCH VOLUNTEERS WOULD ENTER SAHARAN TERRITORY UNARMED BUT THAT THE MOROCCAN ARMY WOULD BE PREPARED TO REPEL ANY ATTACK AGAINST THEM. MOROCCAN MIN OF INFORMATION, BENHIMA, REPORTEDLY TOLD THE PRESS IN MARAKESH OCT 28 THAT THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS TO BE REACHED BETWEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPAIN AND MOROCCO WOULD BE BACKED BY THE UN. IN THIS CONNECTION, LOCAL PRESS ALSO REPORTS RUMORS THAT A HIGH LEVEL ALGERIAN PERSONALITY IS EXPECTED AT ANY MOMENT IN MADRID.

6. PRESS OF COURSE HAS FOCUSED ATTENTION ON WALDHEIM'S VISIT AND ALMOST SIMULTANEOUS ARRIVAL IN MADRID OF MOROCCAN FONMIN LARAKI AND MAURITANIAN FONMIN MOUKNASS. PRESIDENT

IDI AMIN'S REPRESENTATIVE, LT. COL. GODWIN SULE, ALSO
DELIVERED MESSAGE ON BEHALF OF OAU TO MFA. MEANWHILE, GOS
PERM REP TO UN, DE PINIES, RETURNED TO MADRID OCT 26 AND
WAS IMMEDIATELY HOSPITALIZED FOR A LUNG CONDITION.
STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL STABILITY, INDEPENDENCE, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, LIBERATION
FRONTS, CURFEW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID07531
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750375-0229
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751010/aaaaaitt.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 7512
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <29 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPANISH SAHARA: CURFEW IMPOSED IN SAHARA AS INTERNAL SHARA SITUATION BECOMES MORE CONFUSED
TAGS: MILI, PFOR, SS, MO, SP, UN, (QADHAFI, MU'AMMAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006